



TALISMAN

2016 Gunsalus Vineyard Pinot noir

Dijon Clone 114

Russian River Valley

Talisman Winery is dedicated to the crafting of exquisite, soulful Pinot Noirs that are true to their roots and accurately reflect the terroir and personality of their vineyard of origin.

About the Talisman Logo

The Talisman logo is a stylized representation of a Native American medicine wheel. The elements of the medicine wheel represent the circle of life and the four directions, reminding us of our place in the universe. The rays around the medicine wheel represent the sun, which provides energy for life on Earth and ripens grapes, allowing us to revel in the pleasures of life, including fine wine.

Vineyards and Winemaking

Pamela and Glen Gunsalus (“gun-say-lus”) are always in their vineyard providing the best fertilizer available; their footsteps. Gunsalus vineyard is located on a west-facing slope in the Green Valley of Russian River Valley appellation. These two former researchers have great intuition backed up by scientific rigor and it shows in the quality of their grapes.

2016 was a wonderful growing season after a winter with a bit more rain than the last five years. We enjoyed a mild spring and consistent warm weather continuing throughout the summer. The crop was beautifully balanced giving us elegant, flavorful mouth-filling Pinots with fabulous texture.

We produced this wine from a single barrel of wine made from Dijon Clone 114 grapes. The wine was made in a one ton fermenter and included 25% whole clusters in the bottom of the fermenter. The balance of the fruit was destemmed without crushing the berries. The must was gently punched down by hand and fermented by feral yeast. When the fermentation finished, the bin was sealed up for an extended maceration. Thirty-eight days after picking, the bin was drained, the grapes were pressed, and the wine was aged in a new French Dargaud et Jaegle barrel made from the Bertrange forest with medium toast staves. This barrel, with its subtle oak flavors, tight grain, purity, precision and elegance especially respects the fruit flavors in Pinot noir.

Tasting Notes

This wine is ethereal and mysterious, a game of hide and seek, it gradually unfurls in your mouth and takes you on a journey... Its delicate entry draws you in with a bouquet of black currant, blueberry, bramble, mandarin and white pepper. The palate is very complex; lush and lively, soft and chewy; airy and elegant, graceful and mouthcoating; flavors of blackberry, cranberry and cardamom, mineral and cherry trickle in at their own pace, like dappled sun and shadow... one of the most alluring Pinots we’ve encountered.

Details

Vineyard planted in: 2001

Vine spacing: 4' x 7'

Vine density: 1556 vines per acre

Clone/selections: Dijon clone 114

Rootstock: 101-14

Elevation: 170-300'

pH: 3.70

Titrateable acidity: 5.9 g/L

Alcohol: 14.8% by volume

Yield: 2.8 tons/acre

Barrel aging: 19 months, 100% new French oak

23 cases produced